Hosting the Annual ASID ASM in Auckland offered a wonderful opportunity to shine the spotlight on the work of our New Zealand colleagues. This was reflected in the media coverage, which showcased new research presented at the conference.

A partnership with the Medical Journal of Australia and the New Zealand Medical Journal provided great scope for highlighting the global challenges of infectious diseases and latest research. Read the MJA editorial by ASID President Associate Professor David Looke here.

In keeping with the times, the conference also introduced the use of the highly popular social media tool Twitter, which enabled us to share our conference content with likeminded networks and individuals around the world, including as far afield as the UK, USA and the Netherlands. For those of you not yet on Twitter we encourage you to sign up and follow @ASIDANZ.

Below you will find links to our media releases and a selection of the news coverage they generated. Please feel free to share with your networks.

Media services were provided by ASHM Media.

**Media Releases**

*Read the full media releases on the ASID website.*

**New study shows pneumococcal vaccine success in New Zealand children**

Infectious disease experts are today heralding New Zealand’s pneumococcal vaccination schedule an unequivocal success as new studies show that certain strains of the disease have almost been eliminated in children under five and the number of hospitalisations for invasive pneumococcal disease have plummeted as a result.

**Childhood skin infections drive emergence of new antibiotic-resistant superbug in New Zealand**

The treatment of childhood skin infections with antibiotic ointment is driving the spread of hospital superbugs, putting the lives of New Zealanders at risk. Urgent action needs to be taken to regulate its use.

**Vaccine for rheumatic fever on the horizon**

A new vaccine to combat the debilitating disease caused by rheumatic fever may soon become a reality, preventing hundreds of thousands of deaths from heart disease around the world each year. Read the full release

**Media Coverage**

Click on the headings below for the full articles. Please note this only includes news available online. The ASID ASM was also covered over two consecutive days by New Zealand television news on TV ONE and TV3. Interviews with key speakers such as Professor Mark Wilcox featured in print editions of publications such as Medical Observer.

**MJA Infectious Diseases Edition**

*The global challenges of infectious diseases*

Medical Journal of Australia -- 16/03/15 02:00
Skin infections

**Ointment fusidic acid linked to MRSA superbug rise**
The New Zealand Herald -- 18/03/15 03:00

**Skin antibiotic use linked to superbug spread**
Radio New Zealand -- 18/03/15 09:19

**Skin treatment may help spread MRSA**
Newstalk ZB -- 18/03/15 06:49

**Childhood skin infections drive emergence of new antibiotic-resistant superbug in New Zealand**
LiveNews.co.nz -- 18/03/15 10:40

**Doctors have alternatives to topical treatments**
Scoop -- 19/03/15 11:13

**Kids driving deadly superbug spread: study**
NZ City -- 18/03/15 04:33

**Skin cream spurs superbug**
Scoop -- 20/03/15 13:36

**Ointment risk**
Fairfax Media - The Timaru Herald (Epaper) -- 18/03/15 05:05

**Kids' skin cream spawns superbug**
The Dominion Post -- 18/03/15 03:00

Rheumatic Fever Vaccine

**Rheumatic fever vaccine 'now within reach'**
The New Zealand Herald -- 18/03/15 12:16

**Fever vaccine would be 'huge step forward'**
Radio New Zealand -- 18/03/15 16:34

**Breakthrough rheumatic vaccine close**
MSN NZ -- 18/03/15 09:53

**Private funding needed for rheumatic fever vaccine**
Newstalk ZB -- 18/03/15 08:47

**Hopes for a rheumatic fever vaccine**
Radio New Zealand -- 18/03/15 05:17

**New hopes for rheumatic fever vaccination**
LiveNews.co.nz -- 19/03/15 13:42

**Private funding needed for rheumatic fever vaccine**
Breakthrough rheumatic vaccine close
NZ City -- 18/03/15 05:47

Pneumococcal Vaccine Success

New study shows pneumococcal vaccine success in New Zealand children
LiveNews.co.nz -- 18/03/15 10:40

Laid to rest yesterday, baby Riley has helped so many
Kidspot.com.au -- 26/03/15 15:48

Maori & Pacific Island Children at Greatest Risk of Hearing Loss
Study InfoNews.co.nz -- 24/03/15 11:49

Parents Warned To Act Quickly to Prevent Child Hearing Loss
Starship Surgeon Infonews.co.nz -- 19/03/15 14:03

Parents 'need to be vigilant' to prevent child hearing loss
Yahoo! New Zealand - News -- 18/03/15 05:17

Maori and Pacific children 'at greatest risk of hearing loss'
Yahoo! New Zealand - News -- 18/03/15 15:23

澳大利亞丙型肝炎未來15年或增2倍
澳洲中文網 -- 18/03/15 12:47